

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 27 is amended consistent with terminology presented by the Examiner in the prior action and so as to overcome objections to claim 27.

No new matter is presented and, accordingly, approval and entry of the amended claim 27 is respectfully requested.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 20, 25, and 26 are allowed.

Claims 8 and 19 are canceled.

Claims 27 and 28 are objected to and rejected.

ITEM 1: OBJECTION TO CLAIM 27

Claim 27 has been amended to clarify the parts outlined by the Examiner, including changing the wording "laterally of" to the way the Examiner has put it, which is "lateral to".

Further, the phrase "a portion of an outline of the shielding parts being formed along a periphery of same luminescent intensity" is corrected, based on the description of Fig. 9 at p. 10, lines 18-19, which explains that the shielding parts are shaped so that they are outlined, framed or bordered by areas of discharge-generated light that have the same luminescent intensities.

ITEMS 3 AND 4: REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 27 AND 28 FOR ANTICIPATION UNDER 35 USC § 102(b) BY NAKAHARA ET AL. (USP 6,531,819) AND UNDER 35 USC § 102(e) BY HA ET AL. (USP 6,255,779), RESPECTIVELY

The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the invention recited in the amended Claim 27 is neither disclosed in *Nakahara* nor *Ha*. This is clear from the fact that *Nakahara* and *Ha* both fails to teach one of the main characteristics in Fig. 9 of the present invention, that is, the shielding parts are formed in correspondence to regions having low luminescent intensity and are outlined by areas of discharge-generated light having the same luminescent intensities, as are clearly recited in independent claim 27 as currently amended.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection of claim 27 should be withdrawn.

Further, since claim 28 depends on claim 27 and thus inherits the limitations thereof, claim 28 should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 27.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance which actions are earnestly solicited.


Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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